

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/712,360

Examiner

Christopher Onuaku

Applicant(s)

EIREF ET AL.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amend and response filed 1/10/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11/14/00 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response To Arguments

1. Please note that the typographical error pointed out by the applicant in the applicant's "REMARKS" section with reference to examiner's "Allowable Subject Matter" section relating to claims 13 and 19 with respect to MPEG-2 decoder has corrected.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-25 are allowable over the prior art of record.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the invention relates to methods and devices for passing clear DVD data (such as, DVD program streams), including methods and devices for passing any form of encrypted data from any source.

The closest references Takeuchi et al (US 6,297,797) disclose a computer system having a function of displaying closed caption data included in a data stream that has been digitally compressed and encoded on a display monitor, and a closed caption method used in that system, and Casparian teaches video image processing, including an image buffer architecture which is capable of providing multiple image frames or snapshots simultaneously, either to a plurality of image processors or to

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multiple locations within a computer system, providing a highly flexible image data input/output buffering system.

However, Takeuchi and Casparian fail to explicitly disclose a method for passing clear DVD program streams from a CPU to an MPEG-2 decoder, where the method comprises the steps of reading, via a CPU, DVD data from a DVD drive across a PCI bus, decrypting the DVD data in the CPU and creating packet data, sending the packet data to a FIFO element via a memory bus, and forwarding the packet data from the FIFO, via a transport bus, to an MPEG-2 decoder.

Regarding claim 6, the invention relates to methods and devices for passing clear DVD data (such as, DVD program streams), including methods and devices for passing any form of encrypted data from any source.

The closest references Takeuchi et al (US 6,297,797) disclose a computer system having a function of displaying closed caption data included in a data stream that has been digitally compressed and encoded on a display monitor, and a closed caption method used in that system, and Casparian teaches video image processing, including an image buffer architecture which is capable of providing multiple image frames or snapshots simultaneously, either to a plurality of image processors or to multiple locations within a computer system, providing a highly flexible image data input/output buffering system.

However, Takeuchi and Casparian fail to explicitly disclose a method for passing clear DVD program streams from a CPU to an MPEG type decoder, where the method

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comprises the step of decrypting the DVD data in the CPU and creating packet data and forwarding the packet data from the buffer, via a transport bus, to an MPEG type decoder.

Regarding claim 13, the invention relates to methods and devices for passing clear DVD data (such as, DVD program streams), including methods and devices for passing any form of encrypted data from any source.

The closest references Takeuchi et al (US 6,297,797) disclose a computer system having a function of displaying closed caption data included in a data stream that has been digitally compressed and encoded on a display monitor, and a closed caption method used in that system, and Casparian teaches video image processing, including an image buffer architecture which is capable of providing multiple image frames or snapshots simultaneously, either to a plurality of image processors or to multiple locations within a computer system, providing a highly flexible image data input/output buffering system.

However, Takeuchi and Casparian fail to explicitly disclose a system for passing clear DVD program streams from a CPU to a decoder, where the system comprises a packet data decoder connected to the memory bus via a buffer, wherein the CPU reads DVD data from the DVD data source across the PCI bus, decrypts the DVD data and creating packet data, sends the packet data to a the buffer via the memory bus, and wherein the decoder receives the packet data, via the transport bus, from the buffer.

Regarding claim 19, the invention relates to methods and devices for passing clear DVD data (such as, DVD program streams), including methods and devices for passing any form of encrypted data from any source.

The closest references Takeuchi et al (US 6,297,797) disclose a computer system having a function of displaying closed caption data included in a data stream that has been digitally compressed and encoded on a display monitor, and a closed caption method used in that system, and Casparian teaches video image processing, including an image buffer architecture which is capable of providing multiple image frames or snapshots simultaneously, either to a plurality of image processors or to multiple locations within a computer system, providing a highly flexible image data input/output buffering system.

However, Takeuchi and Casparian fail to explicitly disclose a set-top box that passes clear DVD program streams from a CPU to an MPEG type decoder, where the set-top box comprises an MPEG type decoder connected to the memory bus via a buffer, wherein the CPU reads DVD data from the DVD data source across the PCI bus, decrypts the DVD data and creates packet data, sends the packet data to a the buffer via the memory bus, and wherein the MPEG type decoder receives the packet data, via the transport bus, from the buffer.

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Conclusion


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher O. Onuaku whose telephone number is (571) 272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody, can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


COO

6/13/05


James J. Groody
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